

**LITTLE BLUE BOOK NO. 1456**  
**Edited by E. Haldeman-Julius**

# **A Dictionary of the Social Sciences**

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## PREFACE .

Many of the words used with special technical meanings in such sciences as economics, politics, and sociology are employed loosely or with somewhat different connotations in ordinary speech. The economist who says he is concerned with the study of wealth does not, of course, mean that he is interested only in rich people or in ways of becoming rich. A Democrat, that is, a member of the Democratic Party in the United States, may or may not be more "democratic," willing to mingle with people of all classes, than his Republican neighbor. Both are republicans and democrats in the sense that they do not believe in monarchy or in hereditary titles: but the Democrat, if he lives in the South, is likely to defend what amounts to an aristocratic system. Some simple words are defined in the following pages because they are capable of leading the careless reader astray when he comes upon them in scientific or semi-scientific works.

A few words which might otherwise have been included here, I have already dealt with in Little Blue Book No. 452, *A Dictionary of Scientific Terms*. The definitions given there of, for example, "history," "anthropology," "art," "science," "social," and "social psychology," are all of present interest; but it seems advisable to avoid duplication so far as possible between different little books of this series, especially since the compactness and cheapness of the individual volumes reduces the inconvenience of cross-reference.

This is a dictionary rather than a primer.

It may be pointed out that the Little Blue Books contain a large number of titles dealing with psychology, which is essentially a social science, and several on economics and allied subjects. History, philosophy, and religion are well represented. Moreover, there are manuals of biology and its branches, intimately connected with the social sciences. The Little Blue Books concerned with evolution are all relevant here.

## A DICTIONARY OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

**ABOLITIONIST.** One who endeavors to abolish the slave trade or slavery. The term is applied to Wilberforce and his followers in the British Empire as well as to the anti-slavery workers in the United States. It need not be merely historical, for slavery still exists, not always under that name.

**ABRASION.** The loss coins suffer by wear and tear in circulation.

**ADULTERATION.** Changing an article into something which is not greatly different in appearance by the addition of cheaper substances.

**AD VALOREM DUTY.** A duty proportioned to value rather than to quality alone.

**AGENT.** One who has been granted authority to act for another, as in the general management of a business or in the performance of a special duty connected with it.

**ALEATORY.** Depending upon chance or uncertainty. A bet on a horse race is one

sort of aleatory contract, an insurance policy is another.

**ALTRUISM.** The moral habitude which induces one to have regard for the interests and desires of others.

**ANARCHISM.** "A principle or theory of life and conduct under which society is conceived without government—harmony in such a society being obtained not by submission to law, or obedience to any authority, but by free agreements concluded . . . for the sake of production and consumption, as also for the satisfaction of the infinite variety of needs and aspirations of a civilized being."—P. Kropotkin. Violence is not necessarily implied in the term, though a few anarchist leaders have advocated its use to bring about the abolition of government and the attainment of their ideals. Generally speaking, a. differs from individualism and *laissez-faire* doctrines in that it contemplates no protection to private property, at least that which is used in production, and looks forward to its disappearance as such.

**ANNUITY.** An investment entitling the investor to receive equal annual sums for the rest of his life or for a specified period. The sum paid each year.

**ARBITRAGE.** International dealings in stock exchange securities, bullion, specie, bills of exchange, and other commodities having a wide market; especially such as equalize the comparatively small difference in price that prevail between one exchange or money market and another in a foreign country.

**ARISTOCRACY.** Literally, the rule of the best. Government by a privileged class, usually a small one that transmits its special privileges to the children, or some of the children of the aristocrats. The fact that a few aliens are debarred from participation in the government does not turn a democracy into an a., but the exclusion of a large class of persons who are shut out because of race, color, place of birth, or social rank does. The delegates to the Constitutional Convention of the United States were, for the most part, believers in a natural aristocracy of birth and intellect.

**ARITHMETICAL RATIO or PROGRESSION.**

An increase or decrease by a common difference in three or more quantities. As, 4, 5, 6; or 11.2, 11, 10.8, 10.6.

**ARTEL.** Russian for *gang*. An association of free workmen for carrying on a task together, the gains being in most cases divided equally.

**ASSAULT.** An attempt or threat to inflict bodily injury. Loosely used to include battery.

**ASSAY.** Test the purity (of **precious metals**).

**AUTOCRAT.** An absolute ruler. Autocracy is actually limited by custom and by the inability of any one person to maintain direct contact with all the ramifications of government.

**AVERAGE.** "An intermediate value derived from a given set of quantities by a process such that, if all the quantities were equal, the derivative quantity would coincide with



the given ones."—Palgrave Dict. Pol. Ec. Thus, the arithmetic average of 1, 2, and 3 is 2; and this figure is reached by adding together the numbers and dividing them by three, the quantity of items in the series. By the same process, the arithmetic average of 1, 1, and 1, is 1. The definition is somewhat complex because an average can be reached by an infinite number of methods. The mode, one form of a., is the quantity which occurs most frequently. In the collection of chest measurements 32, 34, 36, 36, 38, 38, 38, 40, 42, 42, 44, the mode is 38. The median is the middle quantity in a series. The median is also 38 in the list of chest measurements given above. To obtain a geometric average, we multiply the terms and take a root according to the number of terms. The geometric a. of 1, 4, 16, is the cubic root of  $1 \times 4 \times 16$ , or 4; and the arithmetic a. is 7.

**BACKWARDATION.** Fee paid by seller of stock (London Stock Exchange) for the right to delay delivery.

**BANK.** An establishment for the safekeeping of money, which may also engage in various financial operations, such as the transfer of funds, the making of loans, the issuance of banker's notes, and transactions in securities. Some American banks have departments for the issuance of insurance, the sale of real estate, the collection of rents, and the sale of railroad and steamship tickets.

**BANK NOTE.** A banker's promissory note payable to the bearer on demand and serving as money.

**BANKRUPTCY.** A legal condition arising because of inability to pay one's debts, under which one's property is administered according to the direction of a court.

**BARTER.** The exchange of commodities without the intermediate use of money.

**BATTERY.** The intentional application of force, directly or indirectly to the person of another.

**BEAR.** One who speculates for a decline in the price of securities.

**BELLIGERENCY.** Status of a belligerent, that is, a nation or other unit engaged in war in a manner recognized by international law.

**BILL OF EXCHANGE.** A written order from one person to another to pay one who is named in it a stated sum.

**BIMETALLISM.** The use of two metals, such as gold and silver, to form at the same time, in combination with each other the standard of value.

**BLOCKADE.** The shutting in of a country or place, especially from the sea, by hostile forces to prevent food and military supplies from reaching it or for other purposes.

**BOUNTY.** Something received, usually from the government, by producers in addition to the price obtained from consumers in the ordinary operation of the market.

**BOYCOTT.** Punishment or coercion, as by a trade union against an employer, in abandoning commercial relations with the person boycotted and inducing others to do the same thing.

**BRASSAGE.** That part of seigniorage which

covers the actual cost of preparing bullion to be coined.

**BUBBLE.** An unsubstantial financial project, especially if much speculation is based upon it. Hopes and prices rise high, until the prick comes, and the b. is revealed for what it is.

**BUDGET.** An estimate of revenue and expenditure for a specified period, as by a government. This is used to prevent the appropriation of more funds than will be available in the treasury, and to make financial accounting systematic.

**BULL.** One who speculates for a rise in security values. The term is occasionally restricted to those who buy on margin, or to those who are able to exert an appreciable upward pressure on the stock exchange.

**BULLION.** Gold and silver valued apart from coining or manufacture.

**BUREAUCRACY.** Government by officials in central bureaus. The term usually implies red tape and sometimes a lack of control over minor officials by those to whom they are nominally responsible.

**BUYER'S MONOPOLY.** The form of one-sided competition in which one buyer deals with several sellers.

**BY-PRODUCT.** A product which is obtained incidentally in producing that which it is the main object of a process to secure.

**CABINET.** In Great Britain, a council of about twelve to twenty chief ministers of state. A responsible ministry. In the United States, an informal council made up of the heads of

various departments, together sometimes with the Vice-President, which meets with the President and advises him.

**CALL.** Option for the purchase of a security at a named price within a stated period.

**CANON LAW.** Ecclesiastical law, especially the body of enactments laid down by the early and medieval Christian church for the government of its members. Such matters as marriage and divorce are still regulated by the canon law in some countries.

**CAPITAL.** Wealth used for further production. Few economists include land under this term.

**CARRIER, COMMON.** See Common Carrier.

**CARTEL.** A contract between independent manufacturers regulating the amount of output for each and sometimes the prices charged.

**CASTE.** Hereditary class, especially in India, the members of which are much restricted as to intercourse with persons belonging to other castes.

**CAVEAT EMPTOR.** "Let the buyer beware:" a maxim of the common law.

**CENSUS.** The numbering of population and the assembling of various statistical matter, usually carried out by the government. The Federal c. in the United States is taken every ten years, as in 1920, 1930, 1940.

**CHARITY.** The relief of temporary and permanent poverty. An institution for giving such relief.

**CHARTISM.** The principles of a British reform movement of 1837-48, as set forth in the "People's Charter." The "six points"

demande by the Radicals were universal manhood suffrage, annual Parliaments, equal electoral districts vote by ballot, the removal of property qualifications for members of Parliament, and the payment of members by the government.

**CHATTEL.** Movable possession, also including certain immovables which are not treated as real property.

**CHAUVINISM.** Exaggerated nationalism and patriotism, especially when combined with a demand for war.

**CHRISTIAN SOCIALISM.** The theory that Christianity demands certain social reforms, perhaps even the establishment of a socialist state. Especially the English movement led by Maurice and Kingsley in the nineteenth century.

**CITIZEN.** One who enjoys certain privileges and duties as a member of a state, opposed to an alien. "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States."—Amendment XIV to the Federal Constitution.

**CITY.** A town which is large or in some way important, especially one that is classed by law as such and governed in the manner especially prescribed for cities. In English history, a chartered town, usually one containing a cathedral (the principal church of a bishop's diocese). In London, the business

and financial district. The city editor of a London paper corresponds to the financial editor of an American one.

**CITY OF REFUGE.** City, as in Palestine under Hebrew rule, where the involuntary manslayer might be safe from the avenger of blood, the relative of the man unwittingly killed.

**CIVIL LAW.** The law of the city of Rome, and systems of law adapted from this. Customary law. The law of the state as opposed to that of the church, the canon law.

**CLERGY, BENEFIT OF.** The privilege of a Christian ecclesiastic to be exempt from trial by a secular court. Later, the right possessed by all who could read to escape punishment, or suffer a reduced punishment, in certain cases. Benefit of clergy lasted into the nineteenth century for laymen. It still exists for Catholic priests with definite limitations in a few jurisdictions.

**COLONY.** A territory ruled from a distance, especially one that has been settled by the governing power. In Greek history, an independent city or state founded by emigrants. Biology: an aggregate of organisms of the same kind living in close association, as in coral.

**COMMERCE.** Trade, especially when it is international, interstate, or carried out on a large scale.

**COMMODITY.** Article that is useful and interchangeable.

**COMMON CARRIER.** One who regularly undertakes for a pecuniary consideration to

transport between certain places the goods of all who choose to employ him. Examples: railroads, bus lines with regular routes.

**COMMON LAW.** The unwritten law of England and the United States, purporting to be derived from immemorial principles. This governs the courts except in so far as it is definitely set aside by codes and individual statutes.

**COMMUNE.** The smallest territorial administrative division in France. A similar division elsewhere. In Paris, two revolutionary bodies, one set up during the Reign of Terror and the other by communists in 1871.

**COMMUNISM.** The social theory that property should be vested in the community. A communist may also be an anarchist, or he may believe in some form of socialistic government.

**COMMUNITY.** Society in general, or a body or animals (usually men) living in the same neighborhood and under generally similar conditions.

**COMPANIONATE MARRIAGE.** Cohabitation, preferably recognized by law, of husband and wife who do not contemplate the begetting of children. As now used in the United States, the term connotes the possibility of divorce by mutual consent.

**COMPETITION.** Effective bidding and offering in a market, one person against another or others.

**COMPOUND INTEREST.** Interest both on the principal and on interest already accrued.

**CONCUBINE.** A woman who cohabits with a

man for some length of time, distinguished on the one hand from a prostitute and on the other from a wife, who enjoys a legal status. Perhaps the term should include members of homosexual unions of some duration.

**CONSCRIPTION.** Compulsory military service, sometimes by lot. In recent usage, the word has been made to include the appropriation of property and the drafting of service for indirectly military purposes in time of war.

**CONSTITUTION.** The fundamental law of a state, whether written, traditional, or partly one and partly the other. In the United States the amendment of the Federal or a state c. is more complicated and more difficult than the changing of ordinary statute law. This is not the case in some foreign countries.

**CONSUL.** In ancient Rome, one of two magistrates annually chosen to exercise supreme power. In the French Republic, 1799-1804, one of three such magistrates. Bonaparte, Chief Consul, became Emperor Napoleon I. A government official in a foreign place, charged with protecting commercial and other interests. He is not usually considered a diplomatic officer.

**CONSUMPTION.** The use of commodities. The destruction of utility, rather than of matter. Thus, when coal is consumed, it turns into less useful gases.

**CONTRABAND OF WAR.** Commodities which cannot be supplied to a belligerent without the risk of seizure by its enemy, according



to international law. What constitutes contraband, aside from arms and ammunition, is often debatable.

**CONTRACT.** An agreement between two or more persons for the doing of or the abstention from a specified act.

**COOLIE, COOLY.** An unskilled laborer in or from certain Oriental countries, especially China and India.

**CO-OPERATION.** Collective action, as in industry.

**CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.** An organization for production or distribution, with profits or losses divided among the members.

**CORN LAWS.** Laws regulating the grain trade; especially those restricting importation into England, which were repealed in 1846.

**CORNER.** The condition of a market in which speculators of one class are placed at the mercy of their opponents. Usually this condition arises when an operator or a combination of operators buys up nearly the whole supply of a commodity, so that speculative sellers and others in need of it are compelled to pay a monopoly price.

**CORVEE.** A tax paid in labor, usually by the lower classes.

**COVENANT.** A valid contract. Ecclesiastical agreement.

**CREDIT.** "An exchange or transaction which consists in the temporary transfer of the usance of wealth."—Seligman.

**CRIME.** "An act or omission that the law punishes."—Austin. Sometimes distinguished

from minor delicts; as in England, where illegal acts and omissions not subject to indictment are known technically as offenses. Charles Mercier says, "My own definition of crime coincides in the main with that of Austin and Stephen, but with this difference, that I shall regard it as consisting of acts and omissions that are infractions of the law not as it is, but as it ought to be; and I shall define a criminal as a person who has committed any such act or omission." Other criminologists take a similar attitude, but it is confusing to find the concept of crime changing with each writer. Because Austin's definition does not seem to make clear the distinction between a c. and a tort, I suggest: an act or omission punishable after public prosecution. An act may be a crime even though it goes unpunished.

**CRIMINAL.** One who has committed a crime, especially one who is in the habit of committing serious crimes. A law establishing a new crime naturally makes new criminals.

**CRIMINOLOGY.** The scientific study of crime. Much pseudo-science has been perpetrated in the name of c.

**CRISIS.** A commercial and financial panic. The point in the rhythmic movement of modern business where confidence in the continuation of prosperity comes to a sudden end.

**CRUSADE.** War instigated by the Christian church for what are said to be holy motives. Especially one of the medieval expeditions

intended to wrench Palestine from Moham-  
medan rule.

**CUSTOM.** Usage of the community, which may  
have the weight of law.

**CUSTOMS.** Duties levied upon imports.

**DAMAGES.** Estimated value of a loss or in-  
jury, and the reparations for it.

**DEBENTURE.** An evidence of debt, such as  
a bond issued by a corporation promising to  
pay a specified amount of interest and the  
principal at a stated date, or stock on which  
a certain periodic amount of dividends is  
promised.

**DEBT.** The obligation to pay a certain amount  
of money, with or without interest.

**DEFENDANT.** One who is sued and required  
to make answer. In a criminal action, the  
crown or state is the plaintiff and the per-  
son charged with crime is the d.

**DEFICIT.** An excess of expenditure over ac-  
tual or estimated income, as in public finance.

**DELICT.** Violation of law.

**DELINQUENT.** Offender. Juvenile violators  
of law are now usually called delinquents  
rather than criminals.

**DEMAND.** Desire for a certain quantity of a  
particular commodity at a given price in a  
definite market, together with the ability to  
purchase it. The quantity thus effectively  
desired.

**DEMOCRACY.** "A system of government, or  
the state where a government exists, accord-  
ing to which the sovereign power is vested  
in the people as a whole, and is exercised di-  
rectly by them or by representatives chosen

by them."—Encyc. Social Reform. A large d., so-called, is likely to be governed to a certain extent by professional politicians and representatives of various powerful interests for their own benefit.

**DEMOGRAPHY.** The scientific study of social statistics.

**DEODAND.** Under old English law, a thing forfeited to the use of the crown because it had caused a human death.

**DIMINISHING RETURNS, LAW OF.** The doctrine that increased the population in a country or increased labor devoted to a particular purpose tends to be accompanied by a diminution of returns to a given amount of industry, after a certain point has been reached.

**DIPLOMACY.** Negotiations carried on between sovereigns or states.

**DIPLOMAT(IST).** One engaged in diplomacy.

**DIRECT TAXATION.** "Taxation which is demanded from the very person who it is desired or intended should pay it."—John Stuart Mill. "A direct tax is really paid by the person from whom it is levied."—Fawcett. "During the early years of the federal government it was generally understood that there were two kinds of direct taxes—a capitation or poll-tax and a tax on land. It was held by the Supreme Court in 1895 that taxes upon income from real and personal property were likewise direct, and therefore constitutional only when apportioned among the states according to their populations."—C. A. Beard. "The Congress shall have power to

lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever sources derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration."—Amendment XVI to the Federal Constitution, 1913.

**DIVORCE.** The legal dissolution of marriage, usually including the right of remarriage.

**DOMICILE.** Fixed residence, as distinguished from a temporary lodging. For some legal purposes, it is necessary to live in a certain place a stated length of time before it becomes a d.

**DOWER.** Property brought by a wife to her husband at the time of marriage. The widow's life interest in a husband's estate.

**DRAWBACK.** The remittance of a tax in behalf of an exporter.

**DUTY.** Tax levied on imports, exports, manufactures, and sales.

**EASEMENT.** The right to use land belonging to another in specified ways.

**ECONOMIC FREEDOM.** The condition in which competition operates without external interference.

**ECONOMICS.** The scientific study of wealth.

**EDUCATION.** The training and development of an individual. In a wide sense, the result of environmental as opposed to hereditary factors. Of course, it must be based upon original capacity, and an elephant cannot be educated to think and act like a man.

**EGOISM.** Action prompted by, or the theory that it should be prompted by, the desire to secure as much pleasure and to avoid as

much displeasure (the economists and philosophers often say: pain) as possible.

**EMBARGO.** A legal prohibition on commerce or some branch of it.

**EMIGRATION.** The departure from one country to settle in another.

**EMINENT DOMAIN.** The right of a state to expropriate property for certain purposes. It is extended to corporations, especially cities, chartered by the state.

**ENCLOSING.** The fencing about of land formerly open as common fields or common waste.

**ENDO GAMY.** The custom or law requiring marriage to be contracted within a certain group.

**ENFRANCHISEMENT.** The liberation of a serf from his forced restriction to his lord's estate and his forced labor in his lord's behalf. Admission to the privilege of voting.

**ENTAIL.** An estate settled so that it cannot be bequeathed at pleasure. Such a settlement. To settle (an estate) so.

**ENTREPRENEUR.** One who manages and assumes the risk of an enterprise.

**EQUITY.** A system of law originally administered by the English royal chancellor, now more or less merged with the common law. There are still equity courts in the United States, and in some cases the regular judges sit as chancellors. Also called chancery law.

**ESCHEAT.** Revert (or the reversion of) to the lord of the manor, the crown, or the state. Said of land.

**ESTATE.** Interest in property. Social order, especially one vested with political power.

**EXCHANGE.** The voluntary giving of one commodity or service on condition of receiving another or others.

**EXCHEQUER.** The public treasury, as in Great Britain.

**EXCISE TAX.** An internal duty.

**EXO GAMY.** The custom or law forbidding marriage within a certain group. A violation is called incest.

**EXPROPRIATION.** The compulsory sale of private property to the state or one authorized by the state to exercise the right of eminent domain.

**FALLACY.** "Apparent evidence which is not real evidence."—John Stuart Mill.

**FARMER OF TAXES.** One who pays for the privilege of collecting taxes, the proceeds of which he himself keeps.

**FASHION.** The mode in which, at a given moment, a civilized society satisfies its various wants, especially those of dress. The term connotes change.

**FELONY.** Crime graver than a misdemeanor, as (historically) one occasioning the forfeiture of goods as well as another, often capital, punishment. Sometimes a crime punishable by imprisonment in a penitentiary, or for which a fine alone cannot be the penalty.

**FIAT MONEY.** Paper money issued by a government which is not supported by coin, bullion, or the promise of redemption.

**FIDUCIARY.** Supported by public confidence,

as fiat money. Relating to that which is held or given in trust.

**FLOTSAM.** Wreckage of a ship found floating.

**FREE.** Not held in slavery or under some form of restraint. Independent politically.

**FREEDOM OF PERSON.** Immunity from the application of force and from all detention and restraint unauthorized by law. To inflict such restraint is to commit the wrong called false imprisonment.

**FREE TRADE.** Commerce, especially international commerce, not subjected to restrictions or taxes which are intended to divert its course. The opposite of protection.

**FUTURES.** Bargains for delivery at a future time, as of grain, cotton, sugar, cocoa, silks, metals, etc. Speculation in the commodity markets is usually in f.

**GERRYMANDER.** To manipulate, or the manipulation of, legislative districts in order to advance the interests of one political party at the expense of another.

**GLUT.** An unusual abundance of a particular commodity.

**GOOD WILL.** The expectancy of a continuance to the entrepreneur of an established business or his successor of the confidence in it and the habit of coming to deal with it on the part of customers or clients.

**GRADUATED TAXATION.** The principle of varying the tax rate according to the amount of property or income taxed.

**GUILD.** An association formed to further a common purpose. In medieval history, the merchant guild or merchants' company, an



organization to regulate and protect the home market; and, more especially, the craft guild, composed of men in a single industry, to control in detail the manufacture and marketing of commodities.

**GUILD SOCIALISM.** The social theory that the wage system should be abolished, and self-government in industry, chiefly through national guilds, set up in its place.

**HALLMARK.** The impression made upon gold and silver wares to indicate the proportion they contain of precious metals.

**HANSEATIC LEAGUE.** An association of German towns during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries for the control of commerce.

**HEDONISM.** The philosophy which identifies virtue with the course of conduct producing the largest amount of pleasure.

**HEREDITY.** The general name for the transmission of characters to the offspring in the germ plasm.

**HINTERLAND.** The district lying behind a coast.

**HOLOGRAPH.** A document written entirely by the author.

**HOMESTEAD.** The house and land making up a family residence, especially as exempt from forced sale.

**HUMANISM.** The tendency, especially in the Renaissance period, to make the culture of humanity the chief aim of life.

**HYPERGAMY.** The requirement of marrying a person of higher rank, or the prohibition

against marrying one belonging to a lower caste.

**ILLEGITIMACY.** Bastardy. The state of being the child of unmarried parents.

**IMMIGRATE.** To enter for the purpose of permanent residence a country of which one is not a native. One who immigrates is an immigrant.

**IMPEACH.** Bring charges against a public official in order to have him removed from office.

**INCOME.** Periodical receipts from lands, investments, business, profession, employment, and other sources.

**INCONVERTIBLE CURRENCY.** Currency for which coin is not obtainable on demand.

**INDIRECT TAX.** Tax collected from one who is not expected to, or who does not, bear the burden himself but indemnifies himself at the expense of others. Indirect taxes "may be taken to include excise taxes upon commodities such as whiskey and tobacco; customs duties imposed upon goods coming into the United States from other countries; taxes upon inheritances; license taxes on occupations; duties on the sale of commodities . . .; stamp taxes such as those on checks, mortgages, and other papers; and, apparently, taxes on incomes not derived from real or personal property."—Beard. The United States Supreme Court has refused to follow economic doctrine about the difference between direct and indirect taxes, and has declared inheritance taxes to be indirect.

**INDIVIDUALISM.** The theory that the state

should interfere as little as possible with the liberty of its citizens, and that it is established for their benefit rather than to serve some abstraction such as the general will, which is conceived of as more than a summary of individual desires.

**INITIATIVE.** The procedure of introducing legislation by citizens who are not elected representatives.

**INJUNCTION.** An equity writ requiring the doing or forbearing to do a stated thing.

**INTEREST.** That which is paid for the use of money or capital.

**INTERNATIONAL.** Between nations or citizens of different nations.

**INTERNATIONAL LAW.** The customs and rules recognized by civilized states as regulating international relations.

**INTESTACY.** The condition of dying intestate.

**INTESTATE.** Leaving no will.

**JETSAM.** Goods washed ashore after having been thrown overboard to lighten a vessel in distress.

**JOINT FAMILY.** A family union, as among the Hindus, of persons descended through males from a common male ancestor, or supposed to be so descended, which holds its property in common and has a continuous existence.

**JOINT TENANCY.** The holding of an estate by two or more persons in common, on condition that it shall belong on the death of one to the survivors or survivor.

**JOURNEYMAN.** One working for hire, as op-

posed to the apprentice on one hand and the master on the other.

**JUDGMENT.** The decision of a court on one of the main subjects of an action.

**JURISPRUDENCE.** The scientific study of statutory law and customary usages. Also, the philosophy and art of this.

**LACHES.** Delay in doing a thing, especially in prosecuting a right.

**LAISSER-FAIRE** (infinitive), **LAISSEZ-FAIRE** (imperative). "Allow(ing) to go on" without governmental interference. Non-interference with the natural operation of supply and demand. Individualism, especially as the reverse of mercantilism.

**LAW.** A body of customary or enacted rules considered binding on the community where it prevails. Jurisprudence. In science, including the social branches: a statement of the invariable relations of phenomena.

**LEGACY.** A gift of money or movable things made by will.

**LEGAL TENDER.** Money that debtors are bound to accept in payment of debts unless there are contractual agreements to the contrary.

**LIBEL.** A malicious publication not by speech alone which exposes a living person (or sometimes the memory of a dead one) to hatred and contempt, or which causes business injury.

**LOCAL OPTION.** The right of the voters in a subdivision of a nation or state to decide a matter of policy, especially with regard to

the regulation or suppression of the trade in intoxicants.

**MANUMISSION.** The act of freeing a slave or serf.

**MARKET.** The effective meeting of supply and demand, regardless of the physical presence of buyers and sellers.

**MARQUE AND REPRISAL, LETTERS OF.** A license granted by a nation to seize foreigners and their goods by way of reprisal, especially to fit out an armed privateer and prey upon enemy ships.

**MARRIAGE.** "A relation of one or more men to one or more women which is recognized by custom or law and involves certain rights and duties both in the case of the parties entering the union and in the case of the children born of it. . . . Marriage always implies the right of sexual intercourse. . . . But the right to sexual intercourse is not necessarily exclusive. . . . We may alternatively define it as a more or less durable connection between male and female lasting beyond the mere act of propagation till after the birth of the offspring."—Westermarck.

**MATERIALISTIC CONCEPTION OF HISTORY.** The theory advanced by Karl Marx that history is determined by economic forces.

**MERCANTILISM.** A system of governmental control of commerce and industry intended to foster national progress, especially by bringing more money into the country than is sent out. The theory that this is desirable.

**METAYER.** A cultivator who pays as rent a half or some other fixed proportion of the yield of the land.

**MONEY.** A medium of exchange, especially coin and its equivalent.

**MONOMETALLISM.** A monetary system in which the standard of value consists of one metal.

**MONOPOLY.** Literally, sale by one man. Sale or purchase by one person or a group acting as one. Loosely, a control over the supply of a commodity enabling one to make a price above that which would result from free competition.

**MORATORY LAW.** A law passed in time of war or other unusual conditions postponing for a time the due date of obligations.

**MORTGAGE.** A security given by a debtor on property which remains in his possession.

**MORTMAIN.** Possession by the church, a corporation, or any body which is theoretically perpetual.

**NATION.** Distinct people ordinarily having a common government, language, and traditions.

**NATURALIZE.** Admit (an alien) to citizenship.

**NAVIGATION LAWS.** Enactments designed to restrict the carrying trade of a nation to native ships and sailors. Specifically, a series of such laws in Great Britain.

**NEGLIGENCE.** The tort of omitting to use the ordinary care required to protect a person from injury, when a legal and non-contractual duty to use such care exists.

**NIHILISM.** In Russian history, the theory that nothing was good as matters were constituted. The term does not properly convey the notion of terrorism.

**NUDE PACT.** An agreement legally unenforceable.

**OCHLOCRACY.** Government by the mob.

**OPTION.** The privilege of concluding a bargain at a specified future date or within a stated period at a certain price. A buying o. is a call, a selling o. is a put.

**PANIC.** See Crisis.

**PAPER BLOCKADE.** A blockade which is maintained insufficiently or in name only.

**PAR.** The face value of a security, which may be far different from its market price.

**PATENT.** A government grant of the right to make, use, and sell an invented article, and to restrain others from making, using, selling, or imitating it. Granted for a limited term.

**PERSONAL PROPERTY.** Property that is movable. All property that is not legally real property.

**PLAINTIFF.** One who prosecutes a suit. See Defendant.

**PLEDGE or PAWN.** The delivery of personal property as security for a debt or other engagement.

**PLENIPOTENTIARY.** Invested with full power. An ambassador authorized to act at his discretion.

**POLITICS.** The science and art of government.

**POLITY.** A form of organization as a state. A people organized as a state. Governmental organization.

**POLYANDRY.** The state of having more than one husband at the same time.

**POLYGAMY.** Marriage with more than one person at the same time.

**POLYGyny.** The state of having more than one wife at the same time.

**PRESCRIPTION.** The right to property acquired by immemorial or long continued use.

**PROSECUTE.** Institute legal proceedings (against).

**PROTECT.** To impose a duty or duties intended to give advantages to domestic producers of goods.

**RACE.** A people descended from the same stock. The term properly implies bodily rather than cultural inheritance in common.

**REAL PROPERTY or REAL ESTATE.** Property in land houses, and all that is built upon or grows upon land, whether on, beneath, or above the surface.

**RECALL.** The right to remove a public official by popular vote. Such a removal.

**REFERENDUM.** The right to approve or disapprove legislation by popular vote.

**RENT.** The return from the use of a thing for a stated period.

**RIGHT.** Claim founded on law and fact.

**RIOT.** Disturbance of the peace by three or more persons conspiring to do something illicit in a turbulent manner.

**SATIETY PRICE.** The price of a commodity reduction from which does not tend to increase the demand.

**SEDUCTION.** "The act of a man in enticing a woman to commit unlawful sexual inter-



course with him, by means of persuasion, solicitation, promises, bribes, or other means, without the application of force."—Black's Law Dict.

**SEIGNIORAGE.** Governmental revenue obtained from charges for coinage.

**SERF.** A peasant obligated to render personal services in return for the use of the land on which he is bound to dwell.

**SINGLE TAX.** Tax on a single object with no other source of public revenue. Such a tax on land, absorbing the rent.

**SINKING FUND.** Money put aside annually to reduce and gradually pay off a debt.

**SLANDER.** The act of saying something that exposes a living person or the memory of a dead one to hatred or contempt, or that injures a person in business.

**SOCIALISM.** "That policy or theory which aims at securing by the action of the central democratic authority a better distribution, and in due subordination thereto, a better production of wealth than now prevails."—Encyc. Brit. S. usually excludes anarchism. In general, the full governmental control of wealth, or capital, is implied.

**SOCIETY.** An organized group of individuals having common interests.

**SPECIE.** Coin, especially gold and silver.

**STATE OF NATURE.** Theoretical primitive state of man, in which each individual is normally at war with every other one.

**SUMPTUARY LAW.** A law regulating expenditure and consumption.

**SUPPLY.** Willingness to sell a certain quantity of a commodity at a given price in a definite market.

**SYNDICALISM.** The form of social theory that regards the trade union organization as the foundation of the new society and the means of bringing it about.

**TORT.** "An act or omission, not a mere breach of contract, and producing injury to another, in the absence of any existing lawful relation of which such act or omission is a natural outgrowth or incident."—F. H. Cooke. An act may be at once a private wrong or tort and a public wrong or crime.

**TRADE UNION.** "A continuous association of wage-earners for the purpose of maintaining or improving the condition of their employment."—Sidney and Beatrice Webb.

**TRUST.** An organization that controls several companies. A combination in restraint of trade. A right or property held for the benefit of another.

**UNEARNED INCREMENT.** That part of the increase in value of land due to the development of the town, the building of railroads, and similar accidents of site rather than to improvements made by the owner.

**UTILITY.** Usefulness in satisfying a human desire.

**WEALTH.** Objects, especially material objects, which have utility and are transferable and limited in supply.

**WRIT.** A written command by a court.

**ZOLLVEREIN.** Customs union.



